REMARKS

The Examiner's action dated May 17, 2005, has been received, and its contents carefully noted. Claims 1-22 are pending.

The continued indication of substantive allowability of claims 2-7 and 10-17 is noted with appreciation. Since, however, it is believed that the other claims pending in this Application define patentably over the prior art, the allowable claims have been retained in dependent form.

SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

An interview was held with Examiners Tadesse and Fiorilla on October 5, 2005. While no agreement was reached on the allowability of the claims then pending, the Examiners did indicate that if the independent claims were amended to expressly state that the magnetic coupling means and the complimentary means are radially offset from one another, with respect to the axis of rotation of the bulb, these claims would appear to distinguish patentably over the applied reference. By the present submission, independent claims 1 and 9 have been so amended and dependent claim 10 has been amended to be consistent with the amendments made to claim 9.

The rejection of claims 1, 8, 9 and 18-22 as being anticipated by Prus is respectfully traversed for the reason

that each of these claims, and particularly each of independent claims 1 and 9, defines a device that is not disclosed in the applied reference. To clarify the record, please note that the applied reference issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,592,054 on July 15, 2003.

The present invention is directed to a spraying bowl (application claim 1), to a device for spraying coating product comprising such a bowl (application claim 9) and to an installation comprising that device (application claim 22) wherein there are provided means for a magnetic coupling that produce a magnetic coupling effort that has a radial component with respect to the axis of rotation of The bowl. Such a means is simply not disclosed in the applied reference.

The disclosure of the applied reference makes absolutely clear that the only effort, or force, provided by the coupling means thereof extends parallel to the axis of rotation of (Original) The bowl. This is clearly indicated by the arrows F_3 shown in Figure 2 of the reference drawing, which arrows represent the direction of the attraction effort provided by the magnetic coupling. Specification, column 4, lines 37-49. Moreover, the configuration, i.e. the shape and dimensions, of soft iron ring 2 and magnet 4 disclosed in the

reference are such that it is impossible to produce a magnetic coupling effort having a radial component.

Thus, the applied reference explicitly discloses a magnetic coupling arrangement that produces only an axial force, having no radial component, and the disclosed elements of the magnetic coupling are incapable of producing a magnetic coupling effort having a radial component. Under these circumstances, it is impossible to comprehend how this reference can be interpreted as disclosing a magnetic coupling producing an effort that has a radial component with respect to the axis of rotation of (Original) The bowl, as explicitly recited in each of independent claims 1 and 9.

It should be apparent from the above that undersigned continues to disagrees with the Examiners' view that the coupling structure disclosed in the applied reference produces a coupling effort having a radial component. Undersigned maintains that the directions of the flux lines associated with the magnet do not determine the direction of the magnetic effort between the magnet and complementary means and that such an effort is of necessity linear and determined exclusively by the position of the complementary means relative to the magnet.

Nevertheless, in order to advance matters, independent claim 1 has been amended to specify that the magnetic coupling means are radially offset from the complementary means and independent claim 9 has been amended to specify that the complementary means are radially offset from the magnet.

It is submitted that these recitations represent a clear structural distinction over the corresponding components disclosed in the applied reference and it therefore submitted that claims 1 and 9 should now be considered to be allowable over that reference.

Claim 8 further distinguishes patentably over the applied reference at least by the recitation of "complementary means not driven in rotation by said member". In the explanation of the rejection of claim 8, the Examiner asserts that means 2 are not driven in rotation by rotor 1. This position is clearly incorrect. As disclosed in the applied reference, and as shown particularly in Figure 2, complementary means 2 are carried by rotor 1 and must of necessity be driven in rotation by rotor 1.

In addition, claim 21 further distinguishes patentably over the applied reference by its recitation of "relief elements for gearing". In the explanation of the

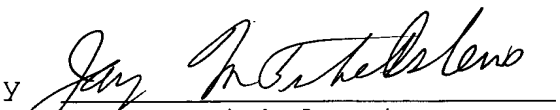
rejection of claim 21, the Examiner refers to elements 12 and 35, which, in fact, correspond to elements 112 and 135 in Figure 3 of the reference. There is no illustration or disclosure in the reference that these constitute relief elements for gearing.

In view of the foregoing, it is requested that the prior art rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn, that claims 1, 8, 9 and 18-22 be allowed, along with claims 2-7 and 10-17, and that the Application be found in allowable condition.

If the above amendment should not now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.
Attorneys for Applicant

By 
Jay M. Finkelstein
Registration No. 21,082

JMF:dtb
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528
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